

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

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# New 7th Grade Immunization Law

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**Summary:** As of July 1, 1999, students must meet new immunization requirements prior to 7th grade entry, including a 3-dose series of hepatitis B vaccine; this series takes a minimum of 4 months to complete. A second MMR dose is also required. A Td booster is recommended. Schools will be responsible for excluding those who have not started the shots or are overdue for the next dose.

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<b>Statute/Regulations:</b>	AB 381, signed by Governor Wilson October 12, 1997. Regulations in development, California Code of Regulations, §6000 to 6075.
<b>Effective Date:</b>	July 1, 1999
<b>Impact:</b>	All students entering, advancing to, or repeating 7th grade in all public and private schools: an estimated 461,000 students in 2011 public schools (in 938 districts) and 2518 private schools.
<b>Requirements:</b>	3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine. As of February, 1999, regulations have been added for a second MMR dose. A Td booster is recommended. As with other requirements of the California School Immunization Law, conditional admissions and exemptions for medical reasons or personal beliefs will be allowed.
<b>Timing of Doses:</b>	The hepatitis B series requires three doses over a 4-6 month period. To complete the series before 7th grade entry, students will need to start in 6th grade.
<b>Estimates of Need:</b>	An estimated 85% of students entering 7th grade in 1999 will need to start the hepatitis B series, and 90% will need their second MMR and their Td booster.
<b>Follow-Up and Exclusion:</b>	School staff must exclude children who have not started the series or who are overdue for the next dose in the series. Schools must follow up on each student until the series is completed.
<b>Evaluation:</b>	A statewide assessment of 7th grade immunization levels will be conducted annually beginning in the fall of 1999. A sample of schools will be visited each spring beginning in 2000.
<b>School Issues:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6th grade preparation (notification, video, curriculum)</li><li>• 7th grade implementation (admission procedures, staff training)</li></ul>
<b>Positive Attendance Accounting:</b>	With the change in attendance accounting, high numbers of immunization exclusions at 7th grade would have a negative impact on school districts. Early notification during 6th grade can increase compliance and reduce potential exclusions.
<b>State Mandated Cost:</b>	School district costs associated with complying with the mandate may be reimbursable.

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